Introduced By: Council As A Whole Committee: A.S.D.

## An Ordinance Amending the Police Department Merit System in Section 2.175.100 of the Evansville Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, desires to amend the Police Department Merit System by changing a requirement of appointments to the Police Department.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED** by the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, that Section 2.175.100 of the Evansville Municipal Code shall be amended by adding the bold words underlined and removing the bold words stricken through as follows:

## 2.175.100 Appointment to department – Requirements.

- (A) To be appointed to the department, and prior to filing an application, an applicant must:
  - (1) Be a citizen of the United States;
  - (2) Be a high school graduate or possess a G.E.D. certificate;
    - (a) Applicants with G.E.D. certificates must also have either 30 semester hours of credit from an accredited college or university with a GPA of 2.0 or higher; or a minimum of two years of military service, including reserve duty;
  - (3) Have reached at least his/her twenty-first birthday on or before the closing date of the acceptance of applications, but under 36 years of age. However, the age requirements do not apply to a person who has been previously employed as a sworn law enforcement officer of the Evansville Police Department or any other law enforcement agency, pending approval and acceptance into the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Pension and Disability Fund (PERF);
  - (4) Possess a valid driver's license; and
  - (5) Have no less than an "Honorable" discharge from military service (if applicable). If applicant has served in the military, the applicant shall provide a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or other military separation documents, which must demonstrate his or her discharge from military service was not categorized as "Other Than Honorable", "Bad Conduct", or "Dishonorable".

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- (B) A person shall not be appointed, reappointed, or reinstated if that person has a felony conviction on his/her record.
- (C) Applicants must be of good character.
- (D) Applicants must produce satisfactory proof of date and place of birth.
- (E) Applications for appointment or reappointment to the department must be filed with the personnel unit of the department.
- (F) The commission shall adopt standards for the police officers by establishing a physical agility test that:
  - (1) Does not discriminate on the basis of sex;
  - (2) Reflects the essential functions of the job; and
  - (3) At a minimum, includes testing the following:
    - (a) Muscular strength;
    - (b) Muscular endurance;
    - (c) Cardiovascular endurance;
    - (d) Musculoskeletal flexibility.
- (G) Applicants for appointment or reappointment to the department must pass the general aptitude test. The general aptitude test shall:
  - (1) Reflect the essential functions of the job;
  - (2) Be conducted according to the procedures adopted by the commission; and
  - (3) Be administered in a manner that reasonably accommodates the needs of disabled applicants.
- (H) An applicant shall automatically be removed from the application process and be disqualified from further consideration in the applicant process if:
  - (1) The applicant fails to pass any one of the above criteria;
  - (2) Fails to obtain a passing score on the physical agility test; or
  - (3) Fails to score 80 percent or above on the general aptitude test.

- (I) If the commission finds, after the preliminary examinations, that the applicant possesses the qualifications which, in the opinion of the commission, fit the applicant for appointment, the applicant shall then be allowed to compete for ranking on the eligibility list.
- (J) The commission shall establish the minimum passing score prior to tests being administered. The following categories, and corresponding percentages of the total score of the applicant, will be compiled to determine the applicant's ranking on the eligibility list:
  - (1) Physical agility test: pass/fail.
  - (2) General aptitude test: 30 percent.
  - (3) Oral assessment test: 40 percent.
  - (4) Writing skills examination: 20 percent.
  - (5) Merit Commission interview: 10 percent.
- (K) Each applicant shall be subjected to a background investigation which shall include, but not be limited to, investigation of the applicant's character, habits and reputation.
- (L) Applicants with passing scores shall be placed on an eligibility list by the order of their scores and the eligibility list shall be certified by the commission.
- (M) If an applicant, for original appointment, reaches his/her thirty-sixth birthday, prior to appointment, his/her name shall be removed from the eligibility list.
- (N) The eligibility list will remain in existence for one year from the date it is announced, or until it is exhausted, whichever period is the shortest, or the Merit Commission, for good cause, determines that the existing eligibility list should be voided and a new list created.
- (O) When a vacancy occurs in the department, the Merit Commission, upon written request of the Chief, shall make a conditional offer of employment to the highest ranking applicant on the eligibility list.
- (P) If the applicant successfully passes a medical examination, psychological examination, polygraph examination, and a physical agility test, the applicant shall then be enrolled as a member of the department to fill the vacancy if the applicant is still of good character.

## EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect following its passage by the Common Council and signing by the Mayor.
Passed by the Common Council of Evansville, Indiana, on this 11 day of 2015, and on said day signed by the President of the Common Council and attested by the City Clerk.
21. Jan Sdome m
Dr. H. Dan Adams, President of the Common Council City of Evansville, Indiana
ATTEST: White Management of Evansville, Indiana DEPUT
Presented to me, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Evansville, Indiana, to the Mayor of said City, the 1211 day of MAY, 2015, at o'clock 1.m. for his consideration and action thereon.
Laura Windhorst, City Clerk
City of Evansville, Indiana
Having examined the foregoing Ordinance, I do now, as Mayor of the City of Evansville, Indiana, approve said Ordinance, and return same to the City Clerk this day of
my June
Lloyd Winnecke, Mayor City of Evansville, Indiana